

Applicant : George E. Carter  
Serial No. : 09/277,298  
Filed : March 26, 1999  
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Attorney's Docket No.: 99P7519US  
Reply to Office action dated January 27, 2005

### Remarks

Claims 1-11, 13, 14, and 16-35 were pending.

Claims 13, 14, and 16-31 have been allowed.

In response to the Examiner's indication that claim 4 would be allowable, independent claim 1 has been amended to incorporate the features of claims 3 and 4 and claims 3 and 4 have been canceled. Therefore, claim 1 now is in condition for allowance.

Claims 2, 5, 6, 32, and 33 incorporate the features of independent claim 1 and therefore also are in condition for allowance.

In response to the Examiner's indication that claim 7 would be allowable, claim 7 has been rewritten in independent form (with a minor substitution of "causing the first computer to perform operations comprising" for the word "for" in the fifth line of claim 1). Therefore, claim 7 now is in condition for allowance.

Independent claim 8 has been amended to essentially track the features now recited in independent claim 1. Therefore, claim 8 is patentable for at least the same reasons as independent claim 1.

Independent claim 11 has been amended and now recites that the operating system comprises an I/O supervisor embedded in the at least one processor-readable medium, a sound card driver embedded in the at least one processor-readable medium, and a program mechanism embedded in the at least one processor-readable medium for causing the processor to facilitate secure communication between the first and second telephony clients by performing between the I/O supervisor and the sound card driver cryptographic operations on audio data transmitted in at least one direction between the first telephony client and a sound device on the first computer. These features are not disclosed in any of the cited references. Therefore, claim 11 now is also in condition for allowance.

Claims 9, 10, 34, and 35 incorporate the features of independent claim 11 and therefore are patentable over all of the cited references for at least the same reasons.

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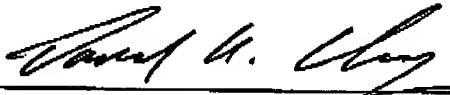
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For the reasons explained above, all of the pending claims are now in condition for allowance and should be allowed.

Charge any excess fees or apply any credits to Deposit Account No.19-2179.

Respectfully submitted,

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